

February 6, 2011

INTOUCH

WORD + DEED

The Church's Mission

Part 2

GOD'S GLORY IS DISPLAYED WHEN THE GOOD NEWS
OF HIS SALVATION IS PROCLAIMED AND THE GOOD WORKS
OF HIS PEOPLE ARE CARRIED OUT.
BOTH ARE ESSENTIAL TO GOD'S KINGDOM.

by Dr. Tom Ascol

[Picking up from last week where we concluded with: "Supreme love to God and sincere love for people results in a passion to bring Him glory and to do good things for them."]

In fact, we could put it like this: Love for God and people leads to seeking His glory by doing good things for them. Is not this what Jesus had in mind when He taught His followers to "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16)? We call attention to God's greatness when, as His children, we do good things for the sake of His name. "Those about us must not only hear our good words, but see our good works," as Matthew Henry aptly notes, "that they may be convinced that religion is more than a bare name, and that we do not only make a profession of it, but abide under the power of it."

To love others as you love yourself requires providing for them what you desire for yourself. As Christians, we understand that our greatest need is reconciliation with God and forgiveness of our sins. These blessings are found only in Jesus Christ, and it is through the proclamation of Christ that salvation comes to all who believe. Therefore, failure to persuade [urge, prevail upon] others to believe the gospel is not only disobedience to our Lord's command, it is also indescribably unloving. Penn Jillette, the comedian who is also an outspoken atheist, underscores this point when he indicts Christians who are hesitant to evangelize by asking this piercing question: "How much do you have to hate someone to not proselytize?"

Because the fundamental human problem is sin and the root cause of all suffering is separation from God, sincere love will cause us to be especially concerned that our neighbors hear and believe the Gospel. True love, however, will never be satisfied to withhold compassionate deeds in the face of practical needs. Just as loving words are to be found on the lips of God's people, so too are loving deeds to be found in their hands. By this the kingdom of God is both proclaimed and displayed.

The book of Acts demonstrates that the early church took to heart the Lord's call to minister in both word and deed. They proclaimed the gospel formally (Acts 2:14-44; 5:17-42; 7:1-53; 13:16-41; 17:22-31), informally (8:4), and habitually (5:42). They also actively engaged in meeting practical needs through healing (Acts 3:1-9; 5:16; 8:7; 9:34; 28:8-9), sharing (2:44; 4:34-37), caring for those in need (6:1-6). In fact, the reason that a formal diaconal ministry was formed in the church at Jerusalem was to insure the effective, ongoing ministry of word and deed (6:1-6).

It is impossible to be faithful to the Word of God without engaging in deeds of compassion because faith without works is dead and "religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction" (James 2:20; 1:27). Paul, who told the Galatians that he was "eager" to remember the poor, admonishes churches to "do good to everyone, especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 2:10; 6:10).

God became flesh to proclaim the good news of the kingdom in both word and deed. The church, as the body of Christ, enters into His mission by continuing this two-fold Kingdom work. As a "chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession," we are to "proclaim the excellencies" of our Lord who has saved us by His life, death, and resurrection (1 Peter 2:9). As "sojourners and exiles," we are to live such "honorable" lives that unbelievers, who "speak against [us] as evildoers . . . may see [our] good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation." (1 Peter 2:11-12).

Continued . . .

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 6

12:30 PM	Nursing Home Ministry	meets at Subway, 44 th & Indian School
2:00 PM	Nursing Home Ministry	serves at Osborn Health & Rehab.
3:00 PM	Discovery II – Session 3	209
4:00 PM	EXCEL (Jr. & Sr. High) Super Bowl Party	Savage's home
4:00 PM	New Song Singers & Campanitas Bells	not meeting tonight
5:00 PM	Carol Choir & Bell Canto Bells	not meeting tonight
5:00 PM	CBC Ringers	not meeting tonight
6:00 PM	SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER	Library (205)

MONDAY – FEBRUARY 7

7:00 AM	Teleios: <i>Women's Prayer and Bible Study</i>	Family Room
9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – "Kick Boxing"	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Community Bible Study	Fellowship Hall and Classrooms

TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 8

9:00 AM	Teleios: <i>Women's Precept Study of Jeremiah</i>	207
6:00 PM	Elder Shepherding Meeting	Savage's home

WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 9

9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – "That's A Stretch"	Fellowship Hall
5:30 PM	Sanctuary Bells (Adults)	Sanctuary
6:45 PM	LOGOS Kids Club	Classrooms
6:45 PM	EXCEL Junior High	Fellowship Hall
6:45 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
6:45 PM	Teleios: <i>The Best Offense is a Good Defense</i>	Family Room
7:00 PM	EXCEL High School Small Groups	meeting at homes

THURSDAY – FEBRUARY 10

9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – "Cirque Du Soleil"	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Young Adults Ministry	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Teleios Study: <i>Memory and Scripture</i>	Library (205)

FRIDAY – FEBRUARY 11

9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – "Dance It Off"	Fellowship Hall
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SATURDAY – FEBRUARY 12

10:30 AM	Messianic Bible Studies	209
7:00 PM	String Recital (Patricia Cosand's students)	Sanctuary

SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 13

9:00 and 10:40 AM	MORNING WORSHIP Dr. Tim Savage	Sanctuary
A NEW WAY TO BE HUMAN, Part 6		
"A New Way to View Our Motives"		
James 3:13 – 4:10		

9 & 10:40	Nursery Parent Meeting (Parents of children age 0-3)	Library/205
9:00 AM	Nursery (birth – 23 months)	301-304
9:00 AM	Children's Discipleship (24 mo. – gr. 6)	101-103, 201, 203, 206
9:00 AM	Adult Fellowship Classes	208, 209
9:00 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Discipling the Next Generation</i>	Library (205)
9:00 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Christian History</i>	207
9:15 AM	Teleios Study (women): <i>Loving God</i>	Family Room
10:40 AM	Nursery (birth – 23 months)	301-304
10:40 AM	Children's Church (24 mo. – gr. 6)	101-103, 201, 203, 206
10:40 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Six Steps to Talking about Jesus</i>	208
10:40 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Baptism Preparation (Students Gr. 4-8)</i>	209
10:40 AM	Teleios Study: <i>Heartfelt Forgiveness</i>	Family Room
12:15 PM	FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON	Fellowship Hall
12:30 PM	Missions Team Meeting	Family Room
3:00 PM	Earl and Alexis Hazel American Songs Concert	Sanctuary
4:00 PM	New Song Singers & Campanitas Bells	206, 207
5:00 PM	Carol Choir & Bell Canto Bells	206,207
5:00 PM	CBC Ringers	Sanctuary
5:00 PM	Teleios Study: <i>When God Doesn't Make Sense</i>	209
6:00 PM	Discovery II – Session 4	209
6:00 PM	EXCEL High School	Fellowship Hall
6:00 PM	SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER	Library (205)

Thus, we are to proclaim Christ with the same spirit Christ did. He not only preached the kingdom's establishment but also demonstrated its character by performing the ultimate good work of laying down His life for His enemies. As the company of the Crucified, we must follow the example of our Lord by the strength that He gives us. Equipped with kingdom words and kingdom deeds, we have been entrusted with the responsibility to make disciples of the nations. All that is required is to love as we have been loved, to teach as we have been taught, and to serve as we have been served. If our King has sacrificed His life, how can we be His loyal subjects and insist on preserving our own?

Dr. Tom Ascol is pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Cape Coral, Florida, and executive director of Founders Ministries. He is author of *Dear Timothy: Letters on Pastoral Ministry*. This week's article (along with last week's) appears as one article in the December issue of TABLETALK, the monthly devotional magazine of Ligonier Ministries, Dr. R. C. Sproul. Website: www.ligonier.org. Email: tabletalk@ligonier.org. Toll free: 1-800-435-4343.

WE HAVE LEARNED of the recent homegoings of two former members of the CBC family, Linda Brammer who went to be with the Lord on January 18th and Edith Stillion whose move to heaven came on January 20th. We thank God for these two saints of his and the privilege of sharing part of their lives with them. We lift our prayers to God for their families as they deal with the void that is left behind.

EXCEL (Jr. and Sr. High School students, 7th-12th grade): Come this afternoon to our Super Bowl Party at 4:00 PM at the home of Pastor Tim and Lesli Savage. Bring a 2 liter bottle of soda, bag of chips, appetizer or dessert. Dinner will be provided. (Regular EXCEL groups will not meet tonight.)

BAPTISM is scheduled to be included in our worship services next Sunday, February 13th. If God is leading you to follow your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into the waters of baptism, His command to all who are His, please call the office by tomorrow, Monday, February 7th, and speak to Mary Gayle. Participation in baptism on the 13th needs to be preceded by an appointment with a pastor.

CAMELBACK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, our very own preschool is now accepting priority registration for CBC members and attendees. This wonderful preschool is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International and has been serving our community for over 27 years. Please stop by the school during the week, or contact Jeanne Bookhout, Administrator, for a tour and registration packet: jbookhout@camelbackbible.org / 602-957-0215. Do not delay! Classes fill up quickly and this priority sign-up opportunity ends on February 11.

ALL ARE INVITED to attend a recital featuring CBC family member 14 year old Harrison Whyte and three other young men, all students of Patricia Cosand. Each young man will play a "season" of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, accompanied by string ensemble (including several Camelback musicians) and Dr. Guy Whatley on harpsichord. This recital will be presented in the Camelback Bible Church sanctuary on Saturday, February 12th, at 7:00 PM.

GRIEF SHARE SEMINAR/SUPPORT GROUP will be held in the Family Room (in the Sanctuary) on Saturday February 26th from 8:30 AM to 12:40 PM and then on Tuesday evenings from 6:45 PM to 8:45 PM, March 1st through May 10th. These sessions do not actually build on each other so you may join at any time during the 13 weeks. Because this is a support group, it is valuable to attend as many sessions as possible. Call Fran Landro (480-945-2509) to register or for more information. Please let friends and family know about the Seminar. Brochures are available in the Missionary Stands in the narthex under GriefShare. This grief recovery ministry program is offered in many churches throughout the country and even the world. Information and locations are available at www.griefshare.org. For specific locations simply enter the appropriate zip code.

UPDATED INFO NEEDED! We are planning on producing a smaller (non-pictorial) all-church directory to be ready by the 1st Sunday in March. Of course, we want YOU in it! So, if you consider CBC your church home/family, please be sure we have your most recent information in our database. Blank Information Forms can be obtained at the Welcome Center, as well as the church office. Please submit a completed CBC Information Form (one per family/household) or email new information to joy@camelbackbible.org. Thank you, in advance, for helping us obtain the most accurate information for our all-church directory!

GREAT TELEIOS OFFERINGS

The classes listed below begin in February. Check them out! For class details, go to www.cbcaz.org/adult/teleios. Please don't procrastinate - register now by simply calling the church office, Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. We'll plug you in to one or more of these GREAT CLASSES!

When God Doesn't Make Sense: Feb. 13 – Mar. 20, 5:00 PM, Room 209
Heartfelt Forgiveness: Feb. 13 – Mar. 13, 10:40 AM, Family Room
GriefShare: Feb. 26, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Family Room, followed by
Mar. 1 – May 10, 6:45 – 8:45 PM, Family Room

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON – NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH! Join your CBC family for lunch and fellowship next week. The entrée and beverages will be provided! Be sure to bring one or two side dishes: i.e. vegetables, salads, rolls, or desserts, to feed eight to ten. Everyone needs to contribute!

A TREAT IS IN STORE NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH at 3:00 PM in the afternoon when husband and wife Earl and Alexis Hazell, both highly acclaimed singers, bring their audience a selection of *American Songs*. To quote the program: "With the landmark folk song arrangements of Aaron Copland...haunting African-American Spirituals...and long-beloved masterpieces from the golden age of Musical Theatre, Earl & Alexis (Bass and Mezzo-soprano respectively) have prepared an afternoon of music to reawaken your love affair with America in a way you'll never forget." No tickets required; free will offering suggested.

CHILD SAFE CLASS – Sunday, February 27, 4:00-5:30 PM, the Family Room – is required for all Children's Ministry (including nursery workers) and EXCEL volunteers. Volunteers must attend this class to learn about CBC's policies and also state and federal guidelines for those who volunteer with children. Childcare is provided. Please RSVP to Renee Zuck (renee@camelbackbible.org) no later than Tuesday, February 22.

HOST FAMILIES FOR STUDENTS FROM SPAIN! We have a great opportunity to provide Christian hospitality to students headed for Arizona in July to attend the Young Life USA Camp in Williams, Arizona. They each need a family to stay with before and after the camp and our missionary in Spain, Jonathan Banegas, who works with the youth through Young Life, would love for the host families to be from Camelback Bible and know that they will experience more than an American family, that they will experience a Christian family. Please contact Jonathan by February 15th at jonathan.banegas@gmail.com.

FYI: GRANTS FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: Please know, should you be parenting foster children or know someone who is, that there is a foundation that provides funds to meet the needs of foster children that are not otherwise funded by the state or others. Please visit their website at www.afcf.org (Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation) for more information.

S.A.I.N.T.S ALIVE! (55+) LUNCHEON is being held on Sunday, February 20th, in Fellowship Hall following the 2nd worship service, featuring John and Mary Giger in concert. To quote composer John W. Peterson: "The psalmist writes... 'make His praise glorious.' This is what John and Mary Giger do so well with their great voices and warm hearts. Hearing them sing is an exciting and enriching experience." For three decades, the John & Mary Music Ministry has served and encouraged the Christian concert-goer with powerful and skillful singing. We are delighted to provide this opportunity for you to hear John and Mary "singing His greatness, resounding His word!" Music lovers of all ages are invited to attend this luncheon and special concert.

SPRING FLING RETREAT FOR GRADES 3-6 is coming quickly . . . March 4-6, at Lost Canyon Young Life Camp in Williams, Arizona. The cost is \$100. To register go to www.cbcaz.org/springfling. The deadline for registration is February 27th.

CBC GIVING TO DATE, 2011

Last Week's Giving	\$ 18,932.00
January Giving to Date	\$ 87,944.00
Year to Date Giving	\$ 87,944.00